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seems to have been gotten up for the purpose of giving Mr. Taft an opportunity to boom his scheme for more battleships. That it was called a banquet of the Peace and Arbitration League indicates that nowadays movements for pushing warlike measures are most conveniently carried on by giving them the name of measures for promoting peace. This shows at least that the peace cause has made progress. Once the war spirit could laugh at peace societies. Now the war spirit puts on a peace masque, and solemnly assures us that the best mode of securing peace is to be so well armed that no enemy will dare attack us. The fact is overlooked that such a policy, if good for us, must be equally good for other nations, and that accordingly the only sure guaranty of universal peace is a condition of the world in which each nation is more strongly armed than every other! Yet, notwithstanding the absurdity thus involved, there are thousands of unthinking men, in Congress and out of it, who seem to have accepted the doctrine that the best way to maintain peace is to be constantly preparing for war. They are for going ahead in this way for five years at least before they "stop and think." Let us hope that, in Congress and out of it, there are enough who have already stopped and thought, and are ready to call a halt to the ruinous extravagance to which President Taft is urging us.

New Haven, Conn.

A Group of Letters on Arrest of Armaments, etc.

Letter of W. O. Hart, Esq., of New Orleans to Congressman M. J. Foster.

MARCH 14, 1910.

Hon. M. J. Foster, Washington, D. C.

My dear Friend: As a member of the American Peace Society and kindred organizations, I deem it my duty to protest and remonstrate against the further increase of our navy, and hope it may conform to your ideas to work and vote against same, and particularly against the building of two great battleships costing anywhere from eleven million to eighteen million dollars each.

The amount of money spent for these battleships, if devoted to reforestation, to the waterways of this country, to drain the swamp lands, to irrigation and to education, would benefit our people as a whole and millions of them individually, while the building of the battleships benefits nobody except the builders. They become useless in a few years, while the public works above referred to, and many others, will last forever.

"Peace on earth, goodwill to men" ought to be the motto of this country, not only for itself, but in setting an example to other nations, and it is a poor example to set to constantly prepare for war.

Letter from Judge A. N. Waterman of Chicago to Hon. M. B. Madden, Member of Congress from Illinois.

MARCH 11, 1910.

Hon. Martin B. Madden, Washington, D. C.:

My dear Mr. Madden: I hope you will give your vote and influence against the enormous appropriation asked by the Department of the Navy. No one knows better than you that taxation ultimately falls upon every individual

who is not supported by public charity. I do not think there is one of your constituents who will not have to pay some portion of whatever appropriation may be made for the maintenance and increase of the very great, the unnecessarily large, navy which for some years we have been maintaining.

There is but one nation in the world which needs a great navy, and that is Great Britain, because the inhabitants of the British Isles depend very largely for their supply of bread stuffs upon importations o'er sea from other countries. The influence of naval bureaus, naval officers, and indeed the entire naval service, is for war.

President Roosevelt, in reply to an application of officers of what may be termed the "fighting line," that hospital ships should be commanded by them and not by officers of the medical department, said, "No officer trained to handle ships and men in time of war, if worth his salt, would wish to be assigned to the command of a hospital ship." This is quite true, and President Roosevelt might with equal truth have said, No officer worth his salt, educated and trained for the handling of ships in time of war, would wish to go through his life without ever having been in battle; to wear his uniform, carry his sword and receive his pay for that which he earnestly hoped he would never be called upon to do. In the very nature of things, officers of the fighting line, if worthy of the uniform they wear, the rank they have and the respect they receive, desire that sometime in their existence they may have an opportunity to show they are more than gilded figures.

Human nature is such, I may say the nature of honorable men is such, that the leaders of armies earnestly desire an opportunity to prove that they are worthy of their calling. The maintenance of a great navy, as of a great army, always means a distrust of our neighbors' professions of peaceful intentions, and is often an indication upon our part of an intention not to be just to those toward whom we feel we can afford to be otherwise. Nations, as individuals, ought to feel they can trust their neighbors, and that they need not at all times have an armed force on guard to protect their homes from the assaults of those with whom they have the most friendly associations. The condition of continued preparedness for war, the expenditure by four of the greatest of nations of more than a billion dollars per annum in the maintenance of armies and navies ready at any moment to slaughter and destroy, is a disgrace to the civilization we have and the professions of honor, truthfulness and right dealing we make.

Letter from Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University, to Congressman Tawney of Minnesota.

My Dear Mr. Tawney: I write to thank you for your courageous and statesmanlike utterance printed in the *New York Sun* of this morning, in regard to what I can only describe as a preposterous proposal to have the United States government build the largest and most powerful navy in the world. At a time when the minds of reasonable and instructed men the world over are turning more and more toward the judicial settlement of international differences and the cultivation of international goodwill through steadily increasing commercial,

financial and educational relations, it seems little short of madness to ask to have public money voted to multiply huge engines of war and destruction. We now have a navy that is ample for defense, and it never should be used for any other purpose. On every side we are faced with insistent demands for the improvement of the social conditions of the great mass of the people, to satisfy which will cost large sums. If these demands are successfully met, however, the results will repay their costs tenfold. To divert public funds from these important purposes, to continue the outworn game of playing at war without actually fighting, seems unworthy of the representatives of our modern democracy. I sincerely hope that the House of Representatives will set its face like a flint against the craze for a big navy and turn its attention rather to that legislation which will curb privilege, more securely establish political and social justice, and open the way to a larger and greater comfort for the mass of our population.

Letter from Jacob H. Schiff, of New York.

Editor of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE:

Sir: Some one, perhaps it was your own office, has sent me the March number of your paper with the marked article, "Baneful Prophecies of War." I suppose this was sent because of recent public utterances I have made upon the situation in Manchuria, and which were reproduced, in partly distorted form, by some of the newspapers.

No one can be a warmer friend of Japan, nor a stancher advocate of peace between all nations, than I am; but those who wish to prevent a conflagration should be careful not to permit an accumulation of inflammable material. If I have given expression to misgivings because of present conditions in the Far East, I have done so feeling that the existing tension and irritation should not be permitted to continue or to increase; but I have distinctly said that the great struggle which was developing — and I meant by this the commercial struggle — need be settled, in the words of the Hebrew prophet, "not by might, and not by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

Perhaps because of this warning a more persistent effort will now be made to clarify the situation, which is my earnest hope.

Letter from Walstein R. Chester, of Boston.

MARCH 17, 1910.

Dear Dr. Trueblood: If in 1898 a commission made up of twenty level-headed manufacturers and business men had been appointed by Spain and this country, each selecting one-half of the number, and these had been given the problem of settling the difficulties between the two nations, that commission would have held their meetings where they would have been free from outside influence, and in less than two months would have had the whole question settled, and there would have been no war, with all the terrors it entailed.

This settlement would have placed us on a higher plane among nations, with friendly feelings between the countries involved, and saved us the trials and responsibility of the Philippines and Puerto Rico. The money

that would have been saved would have been sufficient to have paid for all the waterways that are now proposed. All we got from that war was suffering, an enormous debt and so-called "heroes." The war was caused by diplomats. Diplomacy is simply the tiger's claws, a dagger covered by velvet.

The settlement of the war was by diplomats, and the load that the war and settlement caused must be borne by the United States for generations, and unless the business interests of this country wake up and show their power diplomats will get us into another war.

They propose building two more battleships, which, in case of war, could be of little value, as we have no shipping to aid to act in conjunction with them. They might as well build them leaving out steam boilers. If we needed increased armaments, it would be unwise to build these battleships until we have an auxiliary merchant marine; as we don't need them, it's a crime.

Congress made heroes of men in the Spanish war that are small in comparison with the heroes of everyday life; for instance, the heroes that went to the succor of the imprisoned coal miners.

All we want of a navy or an army is to police the country. I have never known any one that favored war. The army and navy men want peace; they know the horrors of war and want to avoid it.

When this country fully realizes its position and future possibilities, and wakes up, they will drop politics and send only men to make laws that they can depend on; and woe be to that man who deceives them in his acts or votes.

I am indignant at the work that Congress is doing, and promises to do, and *must* express myself to some one, and so write to you. We want more business and less politics.

Letter from William Riley Boyd.

ATLANTA, GA., March 13, 1910.

To the Editor of THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE:

Your most excellent editorial in the March issue has the true ring, and the war prophets will be estimated at their true value, and their predictions will be discounted as having no value.

When men like Carnegie and Seth Low advocate abandonment of war and war preparations as unwise, we know that the day of peace will surely come, and it may be hastened as more workers for peace are heard.

The war against war is on and it will prevail, for we have demonstrated that war does not repay the cost; so it must be abandoned and better means used. The diplomat will replace the soldier, and reason will prevail.

If the war advocate were required to go over the field after the work of slaughter is done and listen to the moans of the wounded, there would come to him, or her, a feeling that there is less justification for war between nations than there is for private quarrels; for the former is deliberate and has not the pretext of sudden anger which serves to palliate the latter.

Hatred of war and love of peace was the common ground upon which I used to meet my valued friend, William Lloyd Garrison. There we were in full accord and confident that the dawn of the day is nearer than ever before.

During my boyhood I listened to the advocates and the opponents of the war against Mexico, and realized that, however profitable to us, it was not justifiable. During the period from 1850 to the opening of field hostilities between the two sections of the Union, there seemed to me never a time when wise treatment would have failed to accomplish more of good than did the work of slaughter. And we all realize how much of evil has come to us by reason of the absurd Spanish-American contention.

Japan wants peace, not war. Her starving poor are paying the cost of her glorious victory, and the Russian peasant continues to toil and hunger as the war tax is collected.

Wise economic conditions will in time prevail, and the incentive for war will be removed. Meanwhile let all who love peace strive for its attainment, knowing that it is the ultimate possible good.

Serving as a Confederate soldier during the war between the States, I learned much, and would not now under like conditions consent to serve in even a war of defense.

Field Secretary's Report for March.

BY CHARLES E. BEALS, FIELD SECRETARY.

March has been a month of live issues and intense interest. Perhaps first in importance is the annual protest against the increase of the navy. The Field Secretary sent out one hundred and fifty personal letters to prominent citizens of Chicago, most of them business men, suggesting that they write to their Congressmen. Copies of some of the protests sent in response to this appeal have been forwarded to this office and are extremely interesting reading, showing as they do how our foremost business men feel on the subject.

Highly significant, too, is the tone of certain editorials which have appeared this month. The great Chicago papers, like the *Tribune*, *Record Herald* and *Daily News*, have all published powerful articles calling attention to the excessive and ever-increasing burdens imposed by competitive arming.

Another highly important sign of the times is the action of the Superintendent of Education of Cook County, Dr. A. F. Nightingale. Henceforth in the study of the United States history in the schools of the county, the details of wars and battles will be omitted, and only the causes and effects studied. Dr. Nightingale feels that there is so much ground to cover that time should be spent only on the most important things. He also argues that the pupils should be trained to a new and higher type of heroism.

In order to gather information concerning the peace outlook from all over the country, the Field Secretary has just sent out over a hundred letters to a few prominent persons in each State and Territory, except those in which the American Peace Society already has Branches or Auxiliaries. The object of this inquiry is to organize State Branches all over the Union if possible.

When the Field Secretary addressed the Men's Club of the Congregational Church of Evanston recently, of which church Dr. William T. McElveen is pastor, a committee was appointed by the club to canvass for members for the Peace Society. Is not this like the

times of Worcester and Channing and Ladd, when the peace appeal was made chiefly to the churches? And is there not here a suggestion for a great many other churches and peace workers throughout the land?

The new Chicago Peace Society goes steadily on with its work. Cases of Peace Congress Proceedings have been shipped to Japan and New York, and others will follow to Philadelphia and other centres of peace work.

The Northwestern University Law School has a special fund for the purchase of publications bearing on international arbitration. Valuable works in various languages have been acquired, and as the members of the Peace Society may have access to this collection, which is located in Chicago, the heavy expense of building up a large reference library in the office is avoided.

A prominent lawyer, who is a member of the Executive Committee of the Chicago Peace Society, has been appointed a committee to gather facts concerning the immigration act now before Congress and to report at the next meeting of the Executive Committee as to its probable effect upon the relations between the United States and Japan.

153 La Salle Street, Chicago, March 16.

Work of the Association of Cosmopolitan Clubs.

BY LOUIS P. LOCHNER, GENERAL SECRETARY.

Since the third annual convention of the Association of Cosmopolitan Clubs, reported in the January ADVOCATE OF PEACE, our movement has received a new impetus. When the third convention expressed itself in favor of establishing a permanent office and of editing a monthly journal, to be devoted to the interests of the Association and the international student movement in general, the delegates were not at all sure whether their wish could be carried into execution, for there was no financial backing within sight.

A few days after the convention, however, through our esteemed ex-president, George W. Nasmyth of Cornell University, the necessity for both these steps in advance was demonstrated to Mr. Ginn's International School of Peace, with the result that considerable aid is now coming to our movement. A permanent office has been established at Madison through the generosity of Mr. Ginn, through which business can be conducted with system and dispatch.

The second step, that of publishing a monthly magazine, has also been taken. The first issue of this publication, *The Cosmopolitan Student*, has just appeared. It has forty-four pages of reading matter and is profusely illustrated. The magazine, we feel confident, will bind the Association much more closely together and will focus and concentrate the efforts of the peace workers in our universities and colleges.

A number of our local clubs have during the last two months had the good fortune to listen to Mr. Edwin D. Mead's inspiring lectures on the peace movement. In every case Mr. Mead was instrumental in giving to the university communities in which he lectured an entirely new conception of the usefulness and mission of the Cosmopolitan Clubs. In one case especially, a club was leading a struggling existence because the faculty and